



February 3, 2021

The Honorable Charles E. Schumer  
 Majority Leader  
 U.S. Senate  
 S-221, The Capitol  
 Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
 Republican Leader  
 U.S. Senate  
 S-230, The Capitol  
 Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
 Speaker of the House  
 U.S. House of Representatives  
 HR-232, The Capitol  
 Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy  
 Republican Leader  
 U.S. House of Representatives  
 H-204, The Capitol  
 Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Leader Schumer, Leader McConnell, Speaker Pelosi and Leader McCarthy:

As the COVID-19 pandemic continues to batter the nation, we greatly appreciate your leadership and hard work in passing the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSA Act) in December. This emergency funding, along with that provided in the Coronavirus, Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act (CARES Act), has kept our agencies afloat, protecting critical service for essential workers while ensuring our agencies are positioned to support the nation’s economic recovery amid the vaccine rollout.

However, given the unprecedented ridership declines, revenue losses and additional costs caused by the pandemic, a new independent economic analysis shows that \$39.3 billion in additional investment is needed to maintain operations today and to get through the years ahead. As such, we request \$39.3 billion in emergency aid for public transit agencies nationwide in the next coronavirus relief bill. Without additional federal resources, our agencies could be forced to implement drastic cuts to service, make unthinkable layoffs and/or delay or cancel critical capital projects.

Such draconian actions would decimate transit service and impact all those who rely on it. Our industry directly employs more than 400,000 workers and supports millions of private-sector jobs across the country. Pre-pandemic, our agencies moved millions of Americans every day, and now our services are an indispensable lifeline for health professionals, first responders,

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food service and other essential workers on the front lines of this public health crisis. Without us, they'll be left stranded.

A strong public transportation network is the shot in the arm this country needs to fully rebound now that the vaccine is here. Federal investment will do more than just keep the trains and buses running; it will help fortify our systems for decades to come. By devoting resources to transit, we can create jobs and strengthen the infrastructure that moves not only people, but our economy.

We look forward to working with you on this vitally important matter.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey A. Parker  
General Manager & Chief Executive Officer  
Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit  
Authority (MARTA)  
Atlanta, GA

Randy Clarke  
President & Chief Executive Officer  
Capital Metro  
Austin, TX

Kevin B. Quinn Jr.  
Administrator  
Maryland Department of Transportation  
Maryland Transit Administration  
Baltimore, MD

Steve Poftak  
General Manager, Chief Executive Officer  
Massachusetts Bay Transportation  
Authority  
Boston, MA

John Lewis  
Chief Executive Officer  
Charlotte Area Transit System (CATS)  
Charlotte, NC

Dorval R. Carter  
President  
Chicago Transit Authority  
Chicago, IL

Darryl Haley  
Chief Executive Officer & General Manager  
Southwest Ohio Regional Transit Authority  
Cincinnati, OH

India Birdsong  
General Manager & Chief Executive Officer  
Greater Cleveland Regional Transit  
Authority  
Cleveland, OH

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General Manager & Chief Executive Officer  
Regional Transportation District  
Denver, CO

Nathaniel P. Ford  
Chief Executive Officer  
Jacksonville Transportation Authority  
Jacksonville, FL

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New Orleans Regional Transit Authority  
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Chief Executive Officer  
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Executive Director  
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Authority (WMATA)  
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